

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A general purpose hand for a multiaxis manipulator for handling objects, comprising:

a frame member to be carried by the multiaxis
5 manipulator; and

a suction holder which comprises:

a suction pad to be sucked onto the handled object;

a rod member for rotatably supporting the suction pad,
the rod member being axially movable relative to the frame
10 member;

a resilient member for pressing the suction pad toward
the handled object;

a first locking mechanism for locking axial movement of
the rod member; and

15 a second locking mechanism for locking rotation of the
suction pad,

wherein the suction holder is slidably mounted on the
frame member.

20 2. The general purpose hand according to claim 1, further comprising:

first and second suction holders provided on the frame;

a first axis in which the first suction holder is moved
to slide; and

25 a second axis in which the second suction holder is
allowed to slide together with the first suction holder,

wherein

the first axis is controlled by an axis controller of
the multiaxis manipulator.

5 3. The general purpose hand according to claim 2, wherein
the first and second suction holders are linked by a
third locking mechanism for locking spacing between the first
and second suction holders, and

10 the second suction holder is provided with a brake unit
which is actuated as the third lock mechanism is not actuated,
and released as the third lock mechanism is actuated, and
wherein

15 the first and second suction holders are slidable
together with each other while the third lock mechanism is
actuated, and merely the first suction holder is slidable while
the third lock mechanism is not actuated.

4. A general purpose hand for a multiaxis manipulator which
handles a body side outer including a rear fender, the body
20 side outer being provided with a door opening, the hand
comprising:

a frame member to be carried by the multiaxis
manipulator;

25 a gauge clamp for gripping a flange provided around the
door opening of the body side outer; and

a suction holder for holding the rear fender of the body

side outer, the suction holder comprising:

a suction pad to be sucked onto an inner surface of the rear fender;

5 the rod member being axially movable relative to the frame member;

a resilient member for pressing the suction pad toward the body side outer;

10 the rod member; and

a second locking mechanism for locking rotation of the suction pad,

wherein the suction holder is slidably mounted on the frame member.

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5. A general purpose hand for a multiaxis manipulator for handling objects, comprising:

a frame member to be carried by the multiaxis manipulator; and

20 a holding means which comprises:

a suction pad to be sucked onto the handled object;

a rod member for rotatably supporting the suction pad, the rod member being axially movable relative to the frame member;

25 a resilient member for pressing the suction pad toward the handled object;

a first locking mechanism for locking axial movement of the rod member; and

a second locking mechanism for locking rotation of the suction pad,

5 wherein the holding means is slidably mounted on the frame member.